

CLAIMS

1. Paper or board with improved printability,  
intended to be printed by gravure or flexographic  
5 printing, consisting of a fibrous medium coated with at  
least one conventional surface coat, the composition of  
which depends on the subsequent application envisaged,  
and including, between the fibrous medium and the  
conventional surface coat, a coat of a composition  
10 based on specific pigments, this coat being deposited  
in an amount from one to five grams per square metre (1  
to 5 g/m<sup>2</sup>),

characterized:

- in that the said coat based on specific  
15 pigments is intended to improve the contact  
between the conventional surface coat and the  
printing ink;
- and in that it includes at least one specific  
pigment chosen from the group comprising  
20 silica, precipitated calcium carbonate (PCC)  
and calcined kaolin, on their own or as a  
mixture.

2. Paper or board according to Claim 1,  
characterized in that the composition based on specific  
25 pigments consists exclusively of silica making it  
possible, apart from improving the printability, to  
maintain a high porosity.

3. Paper or board according to either of Claims 1  
and 2, characterized in that the composition based on  
30 specific pigments is deposited in an amount of at least  
one gram per square metre (1 g/m<sup>2</sup>), advantageously  
between one and three grams per square metre (1 and  
3 g/m<sup>2</sup>).

4. Process for the manufacture of a paper or of a  
35 board, intended to be printed by gravure or  
flexographic printing, which consists:

- in producing a fibrous medium from a paper  
suspension,

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- then in coating the medium with at least one conventional surface coat, the composition of which depends on the subsequent application envisaged,

- in drying the paper or the board thus formed,
- and finally in calendering the paper or board obtained,

characterized in that:

- between one and five grams per square metre (1 and 5 g/m<sup>2</sup>) of a composition based on specific pigments chosen from the group comprising silica, precipitated calcium carbonate and calcined kaolin, on their own or as a mixture, are deposited beforehand on the fibrous medium;
- and then, the fibrous medium thus covered is dried before it is coated with the conventional surface coat.

5. Process according to Claim 4, characterized in that the deposition of the composition based on specific pigments on the fibrous medium is carried out by coating.

6. Process according to Claim 5, characterized in that the deposition of the composition based on specific pigments on the fibrous medium followed by the coating of the conventional coat are carried out using a coater, or a size press, or a metering size press (MSP).